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BOX AFTER FINAL
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT application of:

Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.

Art Unit: 1756

Application No.: 09/396,381

Examiner: Martin ANGEBRANNDT

Filed: September 15, 1999

For: APPARATUS FOR FABRICATING COATING AND METHOD OF FABRICATING THE COATING

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Trademarks, 2900 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22202-3513, on 12-11-01

L. Stevens

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 11, 2001

Sir:

Responsive to the Final Office Action dated July 11, 2001, the following amendments and remarks are submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

OK to Enter 2/2/02

SUB F1

1. (Thrice Amended) A method for operating an optically recordable disk memory comprising the steps of:

introducing an optical disk having a surface protected by a protective film comprising a hard-carbon coating having a thickness of 500Å or less;

irradiating a semiconductor laser light onto said optical disk through said hard-carbon coating;

wherein the number of pin-holes in said hard-carbon coating is $30/mm^2$ or less ,and wherein said hard-carbon coating is an outermost layer of the disk.

E1

SUB F2

8. (Thrice Amended) A method for operating an optically recordable disk memory comprising the steps of:

E2